

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 61

Rebuilding hospitals can make some select contractors rich - but it does not guarantee health care for anyone.

The principal problem in California - and across America - is that we have an estimated 44 million legal residents (including children) who have no health insurance and tens of millions more who have inadequate coverage.

Persons without adequate health insurance delay seeking care (until they end up in expensive emergency rooms) and government-operated hospitals, as well as the many so-called "non-profit" corporations that run most hospitals, seek to charge the uninsured up to 3 times the rates negotiated by public and private insurers.

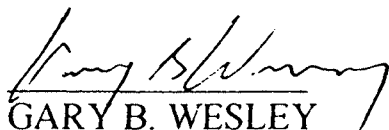
The current health care system in California and in our country is littered with middlemen and profiteers who steal limited resources from actual care.

Put differently, the current system is wasteful and unfair. We need a "single-payer" health care system in which every legal resident receives basic health coverage.

In a political system ludicrously dependent upon private campaign contributions, entrenched special interests are able to give money to our elected officials so that their special interests are preserved or enhanced.

If we continue to have a national government beholden to the rich, the California Legislature should establish or offer voters a statewide "single-payer" system in which persons can have more or less insurance - but every legal resident has some insurance.

Closing our eyes to the real problems will NOT make California or America safer or better.



GARY B. WESLEY

Attorney at Law

SUBJECT TO COURT
ORDERED CHANGES